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means or device falsify the record of any such accounts, records, or memoranda, * shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject, upon conviction in any court of the United States of competent jurisdiction to a fine of not more than five thousand dollars or imprisonment for not more than two years, or both such fine and imprisonment: Provided, That the Board may in its discretion issue orders specifying such operating, accounting, or financial papers, records, books, blanks, tickets, stubs, correspondence, or documents of such carriers, lessors, or other persons as may, after a reasonable time, be destroyed, and prescribing the length of time the same shall be pre-

PART 1220—PRESERVATION OF RECORDS

Sec.

1220.0 Applicability.

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AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 721, 11144, 11145.

SOURCE: 50 FR 10775, Mar. 18, 1985 and 51 FR 22083, June 18, 1986, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1220.0 Applicability.

The preservation of record rules contained in this part shall apply to the following:

Railroad companies Electric railway companies Express companies Persons furnishing cars to railroads Ratemaking organizations

This part applies also to the preservation of accounts, records and memoranda of traffic associations, demurage and car service bureaus, weighing and inspection bureaus, and other joint activities maintained by or on behalf of companies listed in the above paragraph of this subpart.

[50 FR 1075, Mar. 18, 1985 and 51 FR 22083, June 18, 1986, as amended at 51 FR 44297, Dec. 9, 1986; 62 FR 50525, Sept. 26, 1997]

§ 1220.1 Records required to be retained.

Companies subject to this part shall retain records for the minimum reten-

tion periods required by §1220.6, Schedule of records and periods of retention. After the required retention periods, the records may be destroyed at the discretion of each company's management. It shall be the obligation of the subject company to maintain records that adequately support financial and operational data required by the Board. The company may request a ruling from the Board on the retention of any record. The provisions of this part shall not be construed as excusing compliance with the lawful requirements of any other governmental body prescribing longer retention periods for any category of records.

§ 1220.2 Protection and storage of records.

- (a) The company shall protect records subject to this part from fires, floods, and other hazards, and safeguard the records from unnecessary exposure to deterioration from excessive humidity, dryness, or lack of ventilation.
- (b) The company shall notify the Board if prescribed records are substantially destroyed or damaged before the term of the prescribed retention periods

§ 1220.3 Preservation of records.

- (a) All records may be preserved by any technology that is immune to alteration, modification, or erasure of the underlying data and will enable production of an accurate and unaltered paper copy.
- (b) Records not originally preserved on hard copy shall be accompanied by a statement executed by a person having personal knowledge of the facts indicating the type of data included within the records. One comprehensive statement may be executed in lieu of individual statements for multiple records if the type of data included in the multiple records is common to all such records. The records shall be indexed and retained in such a manner as will render them readily accessible. The company shall have facilities available to locate, identify and produce legible paper copies of the records.
- (c) Any significant characteristic, feature or other attribute that a particular medium will not preserve shall